**Elite Youth Netball League Rules**

1. All teams must arrive 15 minutes before the games start to warm up.
2. Team captains will find each other and toss for games before they are due to play their match, this can be done within the registration 15 minutes at the beginning of the tournament.
3. Parents and supporters must remain in bench areas while games are in play or stay outside of the cage.
4. Each team will have a bench area for their team. Bench areas should have a coach, assistant coach, first aider, scorer, the team coordinator and any spare players (up to 5) to be in it.
5. All games run to a strict time scale, games are 2 x 12 minutes long, 2 seconds at half time and 4 minutes between games.
6. All matches will run on a central timer.
7. Each division will have a maximum amount of 10 teams and a minimum amount of 6 teams within it.
8. All teams will require a team coordinator to organise the team on the day to enter the league.
9. 3 sharp whistle blows will indicate teams have 4 minutes to get on to their court ready at the beginning of the tournament. A long loud whistle will go to indicate the start of play on all courts and an end of play whistle will go for indicate the end of halves/match.
10. Information from score cards must be transferred to results sheet.
11. Score cards are to be handed into the table at the end of the day.
12. If a player is injured, ill or tired, another player may be borrowed from any team from their own division or a division below them (i.e., division 5 may borrow from division 5 or 6, division 1 may borrow from division 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6, division 6 may borrow from division 6). No team may borrow a player from a division above their own, in this case the game will be forfeited.
13. Any borrowed players must be named by name and team on the back of the score card, if it is found that a player has been borrowed and not named on the sheet the game will be forfeited.
14. The bench area will be the end that the team are defending in for the first quarter.
15. Players and parents are to remain within the spirit of the game during the matches. Bad behaviour and negative comments towards players, umpires, coaches, league officials or other supporters will not be tolerated. Failure to follow this rule could lead to players/parents being removed from the tournament and the offending team forfeiting the match.
16. Any team who forfeits their match for whatever reason will go down as losing the match 15-0 and the relevant points will be added to the table.
17. A player of the match must be chosen for each game and named on the score card and results sheet, this is important as there is a winner’s trophy at the end of the season for the player/players who are nominated the most.
18. Teams must allocate an umpire for each of their teams, the secretary must be informed of the umpire at least 5 days before the fixtures are due to be played. If any team requires help with umpires, the secretary must be contacted before 5 days, so enough time is available to help.
19. Wherever possible, the league will provide refreshments for the tournament.
20. Any photography must be done by an allocated person from each team and they must always wear their lanyard to be checked along with photo ID at the discretion of the umpires and committee members.
21. Any complaints or concerns should be emailed directly to the league administrator or team coordinator who will report to the league secretary (Carla) who will deal with the complaint/concern directly.
22. Children must be dropped off/collected by an appropriate parent/guardian. No child are to leave the venue by themselves. It is the responsibility of the coordinator to ensure this happens. If any child is not collected Carla should be informed immediately so she can deal with the situation.
23. All players must be in appropriate clothing. Club dresses is preferred attire, leggings and sport trainers must be worn. Gloves will be allowed in acceptation circumstances for the U11 teams, no jewellery including anything on arms/legs, hats and scarfs should be worn. Any head wear should be soft and secure, hair should be tied back. Where earrings cannot be removed, piercing studs may be worn with the permission of the league before the tournament date and must be tapped at all times.
24. Nails must be short. Umpires will do a nail check before the games to ensure nails are cut. Players will be asked to hold up their hand’s palms forward, if the umpire can see nails over the finger they will be deemed too long with the exception of very high nail beds meaning nails cannot be cut any lower. \*Parents, please make sure nails are cut before the games\*
25. Umpires will adhere to the England Netball Rules, with the exception of the injury rule and rule clarification. There will be no time stoppage for injury however, it is the umpire’s discretion to stop/start a game, there will be no 30 second pressures in making decisions. Players will not be required to wait for a goal to enter or return to the court if the game continues. Coaches will be able to approach umpires in a polite and non-contradicting way to ask for a rule clarification. Please remember lots of our umpires are young trainees.
26. Any league rule can be added and amended at the discretion of the league administrator. All coordinators and umpires will be made aware if a rule is amended or added.
27. Teams must enter and leave the courts promptly for the smooth running of the tournament. No persons should be walking around the court during match play with the exception of committee members.
28. Each team must put a post away after the final match of the day has been played, a nominated person will be on shed duty to ensure the posts are put back in the shed correctly.
29. A results ceremony will happen on the last fixtures date of the winter league when team placements will be announced, and medals will be rewarded to the first place winners of each division and a trophy for player of the season and most sporting team of the season.
30. Summer League will be played as friendlies.